



COMMISSION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Mandy Coates, Director	JoAnne Downes
Bill Blanchard, Chairperson	Chad Gerdes
Larry Hingtgen, Secretary	Ines Beltre

Formal Meeting Minutes
Health and Human Services Building
855 South Dubuque St. Iowa City, IA 52240
Conference Room 203B
June 17, 2025

Meeting called to order at 17:00 by Blanchard

Present: Bill Blanchard, Larry Hingtgen, Chad Gerdes, Ines Beltre, Joanne Downes, and Mandy Coates.
Guests: Rod Sullivan, Board of Supervisor and Nathan Peters, Johnson County Attorney's Office

Unless noted, all actions were taken unanimously

1. Motion by Gerdes, second by Beltre to approve the May minutes.
2. Motion by Downes, second by Hingtgen to approve the May vouchers.
3. Department is spent at 61%. Federal VA Compensation revenue for May was \$3,017,657.00. Coates informed the Commission regarding a request for a Veteran's Purple Heart to be placed on a DD-214, he had the orders, and we placed an application for revision. Coates will be on vacation on 6/19/2025-6/29/2025 and went over back-ups for out of office. Commission vacancy applicants were presented to Commission. The Commission will recommend to the Board appoint within the Iowa Code regarding members being of a different branch and as an alternative to use the Veteran that has applied before. Vacancy closes on June 23rd. Coates and Beltre informed the Commission of a conflict-of-interest form that will be sent to them in the future from Human Resources.
4. Policy and procedures for temporary emergency assistance were discussed and partially edited for updates. Coates will edit to make changes to make it a more concise read and we will go over again in July.

Blanchard adjourned the meeting at 17:45

Recorded by Mandy Coates

These minutes will be presented to the Secretary for approval during our July 2025 meeting.

7/15/2025

Date:

Signature on File

Secretary or Alternate